

SENATE BILL 3786  
By Woodson

AN ACT to create a child support study committee.

WHEREAS, 19,534 cases involving child custody and support were filed in the trial courts of this state according to the 2004-2005 Annual Report of Tennessee Judiciary Statistics; and

WHEREAS, both custodial and noncustodial parents throughout Tennessee rely upon the present system of child support collections and disbursements to adequately provide the basic necessities of life for their children; and

WHEREAS, the children of Tennessee who rely upon child support payments to provide for their daily necessities deserve the best possible system for timely transferring such payments to the proper party; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of the current child support laws, guidelines, rules and regulations is both proper and necessary to assist the general assembly in crafting legislation that will adequately address the needs of Tennesseans; now, therefore,  
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. There is created a special committee to be known as the Tennessee child support study committee. The committee shall review the child support laws, and any other policy, rule, regulation or guidelines in use by the courts of Tennessee.

SECTION 2. The committee shall consist of six (6) members as follows:

- (1) Three (3) senators appointed by the speaker of the senate; and
- (2) Three (3) representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

SECTION 3. The committee shall elect a chair at its first meeting. The chair shall hold such hearings, invite such guests, convene such meetings, and otherwise conduct such business as the chair deems necessary for the committee to efficiently and effectively perform its duties and responsibilities.

SECTION 4. Four (4) members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority of those members present shall be required for any action taken by the committee. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, meetings may be conducted by use of telephonic equipment or other appropriate methods authorized by the chair, and members who take advantage of such methods shall be considered to be in attendance at the meeting for all purposes.

SECTION 5. The committee shall present a final report to the senate judiciary committee and the house children and family affairs committee no later than January 15, 2007, and the committee shall cease to exist after presenting its final report.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.